



Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara  
 1015 East Montecito Street  
 Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
 (805)962-3633



**November 2025 Geppo**  
**Monthly Services are held the Second Saturday at 10:00 am**

**CALENDAR**

**November 8 Service, Sat. 10:00 am,**  
**Service by Revs. Stacy Reardon**  
**and JP deGuzman**

*Shotsuki Hoyo* Memorial Service  
 祥月法要

*Eitaikyo* 永代経及び

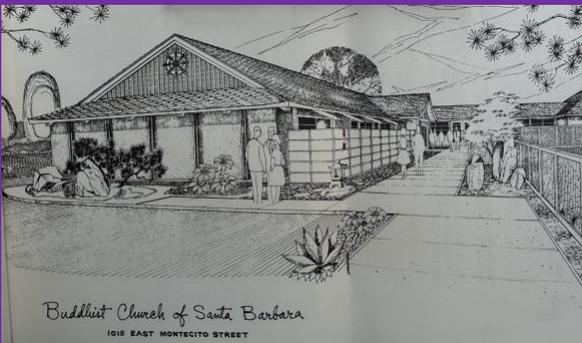
**December 13 Service, Sat. 10:00 am**

*Bodhi* (Enlightenment) Day 成道会  
 Monthly Memorial Service 祥月法要

*Oseibo* – Year-end Gift Giving (Calendar)

Today's service, the *Eitaikyo*, is ... focused on the history of your sangha, on the people who have gone before you in this temple. *Eitaikyo* honors them for the gifts they have given the living, and after all, they've given you the temple, the teaching, and your very lives. (Dr. Metcalf, 2006)

The two buildings of BCSB. The first was on East Canon Perdido Street. And, in 1966, we moved here.



**NEW CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE**  
 of Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara  
 General Chairman . . . . Mr. Hideo Okino

Mr. Manabu Kuroda	Mr. Joe Watanabe
Mr. Tom Tsunoda	Mr. Akira Yamada
Mr. Yoshio Aoi	Mr. Mike Hide
Mr. Fukuo Yamada	Mr. Kenji Morihisa
Mr. Hideo Nishihara	Mr. Hiraku Tanaka
Mr. Shigeru Eejima	



Back row: Mrs. Okada, Mrs. Torigoe, Mrs. Shimoda, Mrs. Tabata, Mrs. Ito, Mrs. Tsunoda, Mrs. Koga, Mrs. Uyesaka, Mrs. Shibao.  
 Front row: Mrs. Muneno, Mrs. Takeda, Mrs. Yamada, Rev. Seiko Okahashi, Mrs. Ishihara, Mrs. Kurozumi.

**Figure 1.** Photo of original BCSB on East Canon Perdido Street. Architect rendition of present BCSB. The new BCSB had a dedicated committee for building. The Women's Association (Fujinkai) facilitated activities, e.g., teaching cultural activities and community support.

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## November Memorial Service (*Shotsuki Hoyo*) will be held for:

MR. DANZO ISODA	MRS. KIKUYE SHIMODA
MRS. NATSU TANAKA	MR. KICHIZO IKEURA
MRS. SHIGE YAMADA	MRS. TOMIKO SASAKI
MRS. HIDE TSUNODA	MR. FUKUO YAMADA
MRS. YUKIYE OMURA	THE FUJII FAMILY
MR. WAKASABURO TORIGOE	MRS. TAMI ISHIHARA
MRS. NAMIKO YONEDA	MR. YOSHITO INOUYE
MR. TOMOZO KUROKI	MRS. TOMOE TORIGOE
MRS. MATSUYO KUWAMOTO	MR. TOKITOSHI YONEDA
MR. YASUO HORIUCHI	MR. RAYMOND UYEHARA
MRS. AKIMI TAMURA	MRS. KUNIE YANAGI



Figure 2 Rev. Stacy Reardon and Rev. JP deGuzman in 2024.

### November 2025 – *Eitai*kyo: Perpetual Chanting of the Sutras

Rev. JP deGuzman

Our annual *Eitai*kyo service falls, appropriately, in

the month of November, a time when we gather with loved ones and express gratitude. Although Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday, we Shin Buddhists find opportunities to express our thanks through a variety of gatherings, rituals, and services, including *Eitai*kyo.

*Eitai Dokkyo* – which we shorten to *Eitai*kyo – refers to the perpetual chanting of the sutras, or Buddhist teachings. Though in our tradition we do not necessarily take that literally – it’s quite the cardio workout to chant the *Shoshinge* or the *Amida Sutra*, after all! – we embrace the spirit of *Eitai*kyo with all of our hearts.

We can feel the spirit of perpetual chanting, i.e., the joyful, impassioned sharing of the *dharma*, when we look at images of our sangha’s storied past. Our indefatigable newsletter editor, JJ Uyehara, included several archival photos of our temple in this issue and I am deeply humbled as I look at them.

The individuals in the photos, and countless others who have built our temple community, were folks who never intended to be remembered as the towering figures of our collective history even though they clearly are. They were, first and foremost, *Nembutsu* followers: everyday folks who, amidst the slings and arrows of a complex world, took refuge in limitless and non-discriminating Wisdom and Compassion. Out of their deep gratitude for receiving that ineffable embrace they gave their all to ensure the *dharma* will be heard in Santa Barbara for generations to come. Thanks to them we are here and we are well. I am grateful for the precious legacy those *sangha* members laid out for us and I hope we, too, can do what we can to steward the gift of the Buddhist teachings so that future generations will feel the warmth and clarity that flow from the *dharma*.

Please join us at the temple for our *Eitai*kyo service in which **Rev. Stacy Reardon** will give the *dharma* message. Rev. Reardon is a minister’s assistant at the San Fernando Valley *Hongwanji* Buddhist Temple and another *zenchishiki* (good *dharma* friend). Sensei was raised in New York and came to Shin Buddhism as she and her husband Eric were searching for a spiritual home for their growing family. She offers refreshing and insightful messages and I know she is excited to meet the Santa Barbara *sangha*.

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## OCTOBER Service



Our October service was facilitated by **Sets Furuike**. **Christophe Sautot** also recorded the service.

**Rev. Blake Honda** who is the Oxnard Buddhist Temple minister presided over his first service at BCSB. In his Dharma Message, he noted the considerable contributions of Lady Eshinni, nun and wife of Shinran Shonin, and of Lady Kakushinni, one of their daughters. They both believed in the enlightenment of Shinran Shonin and Shinran's words welcoming all with the promise of enlightenment and compassion for all; They offered solid economic and emotional support so that Shinran could write and travel spreading his message during his exile.



## October 2025 Contributions to Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara

Treasurer's Report, Sets Furuike

**\$2145**

The temple gratefully acknowledges the financial donations from the following groups and individuals:

<u>Memorial Service</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial</u>
M/M Dennis Furuike (Yasushi Ishihara, Mitsuko Baba) Linda Sasaki (Shoken Sasaki) Barbara Okamoto-Subject (George Okamoto) M/M Tadashi Kamei (Yoshiko Nakashimo) Tamako Nishimura (Kumajiro Nishimura) Lonny Ishihara (Yasushi Ishihara)	Monday Qigong (August) Dennis Ito (September)	M/M Dennis Furuike Rev. Blake Honda Hazel Ando Bianca Ayers Mary Saito

In addition, there were amazing in-kind contributions, donations, and in-depth services this past September! Thank you! To all

**Special Contribution** to October Service: Christophe Sautot recorded the October service,



Figure 3 Sept service flowers. From Rev JP, @shakushinkyō

**Contributions for Monthly Services** – **Jodi Miles** donates and arranges amazing floral arrangements; **M/M Furuike** bring fruit (*osonae*) for the altar and monthly, clean the clean and supply the kitchen and restroom facilities; **JJ and Doug** make the white rice (*obuppan*) offerings; **Dennis Furuike** and **Doug Wilson** greet people and **JJ** checks if they would like further communications from BCSB; **Sets Furuike** coordinates with ministers and makes the lovely monthly programs; **Ted Muneno** sets up the social hall and cleans the floors; **Rev. JP** designs the service flyers and puts notices in the **Independent** and other media; **Christophe** posts notices to webpage, facebook, and Instagram; **Dennis Ito** cleans the landscaping prior to service. And, many thanks to **sangha** members who bring food to share!

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But that's not all! Many people provided time and ideas for outreach. BCSB much appreciates

- **Mara Tucker** for her ideas on refreshing church landscape and marketing materials
- **Gerry Geare**, a Qi Gong adherent, refreshed the benches along the walkway. Please feel free to enjoy our garden.

## CHURCH NEWS

**UPCOMING VOTE** – Would you like to contribute to the momentum, continuing BCSB services and outreach? According to our by-laws, members are to vote in a 20-member Board of Trustees in November for a one-year term. This Board of Trustees then votes for four Officers. In 2024, the Officers were informally titled a Cabinet and expanded to 7 members. We will once again send out ballots to members in November. If you would like to know more about contributing, please feel free to ask any of the 2025 Cabinet members—We'd welcome your participation! *Sets, Dennis, Doug, JJ, Bobbie, and Ted* or [mail@buddhistchurchofsantabarbara.org](mailto:mail@buddhistchurchofsantabarbara.org)

### **16th Asian American Festival sponsored by the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation**

For the first time, BCSB participated in this festival. Our table was located in about the same area as the first BCSB building. The Presidio had been founded in 1782, and was rebuilt in the 1960's. So, BCSB members built the present church and dedicated the present day BCSB in 1966.

Visitors were interested in the aerial photos showing the original grounds which was displayed next to the present-day aerial photo. Thank you to Doug Wilson for locating and labelling the aerial photos, and to **Ted Muneno** and **Roberta Cook** for more information on the first BCSB.

Roberta Cook described the BCSB compound:

"This is what I remember. The Buddhist church was next to the liquor store on the ...corner of Canon Perdido and Santa Barbara across from Kim's market where Rudy's is/was. There wasn't much vegetation around the church—just a few small plants in front with the sign structure that looked like the one in front of the current temple on Montecito street. There was some tall bamboo in the back on the eastside of the lot. The church had a driveway ...to back where we would do Obon dances. The Nishiharas lived in the house back there on the west side of driveway. I think there was a barbershop on Canon Perdido in front of their house. Then there was a building almost like a residence with lots of trees and a metal gate. ... Next to it was the Bethany Congregational church (Japanese Christian church)...before moving to Hope Avenue. The Buddhist church building was two story, light colored, [with] many steps leading to the main doors. There was a door to the right that led up to the ministers living area upstairs and to the room where we had Japanese school. (See map of the 1940's neighborhood on p. 5)

We displayed Buddhist brochures that people were interested in. Some were disappointed that they were not specific to BCSB. We displayed the happi coats of Santa Barbara Buddhist church (Thanks, Junko!).

We also gave away many firecracker origami donated by the late Shoji Yamada. This origami has six distinct positions! We asked if anyone



knew how to fold these, and several people volunteered to search as they had seen examples of this origami. Many Thanks! To **Julia York** for finding a demonstration:

"Origami Fireworks (Yami Yamauchi) – remake"  
Origami with Jo Nakashima  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0-mIZvJD-E>  
(Note copywrite and not for commercial use)

**Welcome! and Thanks!** To the 25 attendees who signed our guestbook requesting more info from BCSB. It was great to visit the many BCSB members and others who stopped by the table. It was great to meet and greet so many with interest in Shin Buddhism or history of Santa Barbara, and to visit with BCSB members at such a fun festival. From *JJ and Doug*

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Figure 4 Ellen Clarke, Harumi Nishimura, and Roberta Cook.

\*Roberta Cook was awesome! She coached folks on dancing 'Tanko Bushi' – first going over the steps while Melanie Fujii, Sylvia Morikawa, and Togen Daiko led the dancing. Roberta is so animated and has such great timing that a lot of people

in the audience participated. And, then the music was on; Togen Daiko drummed; Folks danced, including many audience participants who learned the dance for the first time! A true community folk dance.

\*\*\*\*\*

Below is the display from the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation showing where the first BCSB was located in relation to the Presidio.

This map overlays the original Presidio of the late 1700s, as shown with the dashed lines). Other historic buildings are noted. The Asian quarter buildings of the 1940's are labelled in purple. The block along East Canon Perdido street shows the Buddhist Temple of Santa Barbara which also housed the associated organizations of the Japanese School, Fujinkai, and Young Men's / Women's Buddhist Association.

### Coming soon!

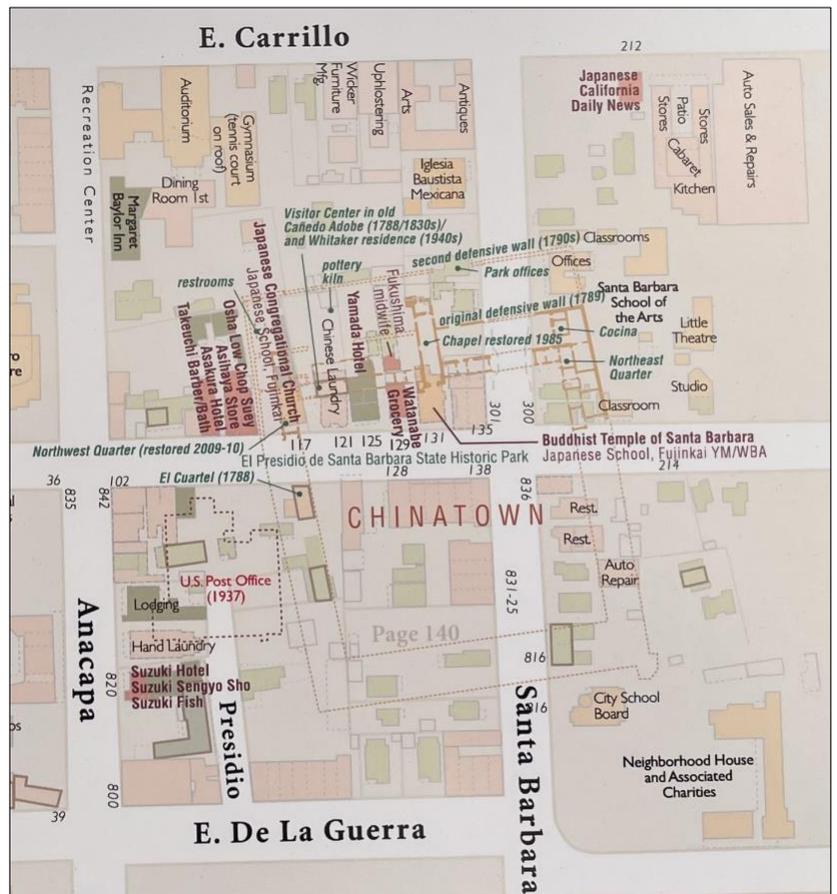
BCSB's rejuvenation and forward progress will be featured in the November Wheel of Dharma, the publication for the umbrella organization of the Buddhist Church of America.

\*Thanks to all those who got in the spirit and danced in the circle--think there were several of us who weren't sure that we could remember and do it, but it all worked out with the practice!

\*Thanks! to Ted Muneno who responded to a last-minute request, and brought bottles of ice cold water and gave it to dancers and others! Refreshing! \* Special thanks to Hazel Ando! She stayed at the table so JJ and Doug could also dance, and was very welcoming to all that came by.



Figure 5 Nick Matsumoto, Hazel Ando, and Rev. Honda at BCSB table.



<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/wheel-of-dharma>

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Figure 7 Rev. Honda and group photo from October Service.